Terrorist Incidents Stir Miami Cubans

Reuters

MIAMI, Fla.—A rash of bombing incidents and the emergence of a new, secret anti-Castro terrorist organization here is bringing fear and political dissent to the normally quiet Cuban exile community in Miami.

The trouble came to a head when a converted B-25 bomber laden with 5000 Havana-bound packages of food, clothing and medicine was blown up at Miami International Airport.

Later, an organization calling itself "Cuban Power" claimed credit for the incident as well as for three bombings in Cuba itself and an explosion in a New York Post Office.

In a statement headed "War Communique Number One" and signed only "Ernesto," the group warned foreign governments that any of its aircraft carrying goods to Cuba in the future "will explode in the air."

Exiles at first shrugged off the group, claiming it was run by a few fanatics. Now, they are not so sure.

A week after the airport bombing, three businesses connected with Cubans were blown up and several more were threatened with attack if they continued to send parcels to Cuba.

The bombings marked the beginning of large-scale terrorist activities in the City, but sheriff's office bomb expert Tom Brodie said the situation has "been building up for some time."

Since Jan. 1 seven bombs were set off, but Brodie dated his file on terrorism back to the early fall, 1967, when a series of "tear gas incidents" hit the headlines.

Several persons were injured in a stampede Nov. 21 when a package of "white powder" was dropped on the dance floor of a Cuban party at a local hotel. Ten persons were taken to a hospital.

The same powder, which floats like gas and causes irritation to the face, was thrown into another crowd Dec. 2 at a restaurant.

A third powder thrower sent 11 persons to a hospital Dec. 16.

Lt. Havard Swilley, a Miami intelligence investigator, believes the terrorists feel exiles are forgetting those still in Cuba.

"They think exiles should not have fun or enjoy themselves as long as their people are in prison in Cuba," Swilley says.

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ICAYUNE, NEW ORLEANS,

HAITI INVASION PLOT ALLEGED

Plan to Seize Two Islands Told to U.S. Court

MIAMI, Fla. (AP)—An armed force based in the Florida Keys plotted to seize two large islands off the coast of Haiti as a springboard to invading that country, a federal court jury was told Tuesday.

Seizure of the islands of Tortue and Gonave was among alternatives in the alleged battle plan of a force led by six defendants charged with planning a military expedition against Haiti and of exporting arms, the jury was told.

Another alternative, the prosecution said, was to set up a base in Honduras for the projected Haiti invasion through the help of Antonio Imbert Barreras, identified as a Dominican Republic general.

Among the defendants were Rolando Masferrer, a powerful figure in Cuba before Fidel Castro's revolution, the Rev. Jean Baptiste George, a Haitian Roman Catholic priest, and Martin Casey of Miami. They were among 73 battle-clad men arrested last Jan. 2 in the Florida Keys.

Government prosecutors read to the jury of nine men and three women a document they said was seized in a brief case at the time of the arrests.

The sketchy document said 50 men were to land on the islands of Tortue and Gonave with guns and equipment for another 100 men and instructions for preparing landing strips capable of handling two B25 bombers and five or 10 light planes.

Or, the document said, one island would be occupied by the entire force and for a strike at St. Marc or Gonaives, both port cities and march toward Port-Au-Prince, the capital, after bombardment.

FEDERAL JURY ACTS

Indict 7 in Haiti Overthrow Plot

MIAMI (AP)—A former Cuban senator, an exiled Haitian priest and five other men were indicted today on charges of conspiring to invade Haiti from the Florida Keys last month.

They were among 75 battle-clad exiles and American adventurers rounded up Jan. 2 when customs agents barged into their camp on a secluded island near Marathon. A small arsenal was confiscated.

Six of the seven were among 75 battle-clad exiles and American adventurers rounded up Jan. 2 when customs agents barged into their camp on a secluded island near Marathon. A small arsenal was confiscated.

The indictments were returned by a federal grand jury in Miami. Acting Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark announced in Washington that the charges had been made.

CLARK SAID the seven are charged with conspiring to violate a federal law which forbids preparing or launching from this country a military expedition against a nation with which the United States is at peace. The maximum penalty upon conviction is five years in prison and $10,000 fines.

The indictment said the seven conspired to set up a camp in Southern Florida and to transport arms and

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Seven Indicted In Conspiracy To Invade Haiti

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ammunition to Miami from New York and Atlanta, Ga.

The indictment said also they had planned to transport men and arms by boat for a military expedition against Haiti.

Named in the indictment are:

—Rolando Masferrer Rojas, 49, a Cuban citizen and former Cuban senator who came to the U.S. in 1959 and now lives in Miami.

—Father Jean Baptiste Georges, 47, a Roman Catholic priest and former minister of education in Haiti. A Haitian citizen, he lives in Miami.

—Antonio Leon Rojas, 52, a Cuban living in Miami.

—Rene Juares Leon, 32, a Haitian citizen living at Elmhurst, N. Y.

Julio Aton Constanzo Palau, 30, a Cuban living in Miami.

—Martin Francis Xavier Casey, 28, a U.S. citizen living in Miami.

—Mitchell Livingston Wer Bell III, a U.S. citizen, living at Powder Springs, Ga.

All except Bell were among the 75 arrested Jan. 2 at Marathon, Fla.

The indictment also charged that rifles and machine gun parts had been delivered to a house in Miami.

ANOTHER COUNT, which named all except Bell, charged the men with attempting to export arms and other war supplies without a license from the State Department. This carries an additional penalty of two years' imprisonment and a $25,000 fine.

The indictment said on Dec. 27, 1966, Francisco Sanchez, named as a coconspirator, paid about $750 at Marathon, for the rental of a house at Coco Plum Beach, Fla. The house was to be used to assemble those taking part in the invasion and their arms.

It said also that Bell paid $1,000 to a Richard Harvey at Fort Lauderdale, Fla., to purchase the vessel "Good Richard" last Sept. 12.

Also named as coconspirators, but not as defendants, were David Cabeza, Carlos Octavio Murban, also known as El Gordo, and Julio Cesar Hormilla.

Cuban Exile Is Held in Ship Bombin

MIAMI, Dec. 16 (AP)—F agents today arrested a Cub identified with a militant an Castro group in connecti with the bombing of a Spani ship in Puerto Rico tw months ago.

The FBI said the man, Jo Rodriguez Perez, 38, belonge to the Revolutionary Recover Insurrection Movemen (MIRR), headed by Dr. Orla do Bosch. Bosch is free i $5000 bond on a charge of con spiracy to extort money fron other exiles to fight Fide Castro. Bosch denied th charge. He was arrested ir Hartford, Conn., Nov. 24.

Rodriguez' arrest in Miami was connected with the plac ing of an underwater bomb on the freighter Satrustegui in San Juan harbor Oct. 9, ac cording to FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover in Washington.

Bosch told newsmen in Miami "Rodriguez had nothing to do with it."

The MIRR chief added: "This is one more proof that U.S. authorities are trying to destroy our revolutionary movement in the fight for liberation of Cuba."